Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>026350-049</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Yasutaka TAKAHASHI et al) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: May 10, 2001)
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING TITANIUM-CONTAINING AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS)))

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Kindly replace claim 3, and add new claims 5-6, as follows.

- 3. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 2, wherein said reaction is carried out in the presence of a ketone.
- 5. (New) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein said reaction is carried out in the presence of a ketone.
- 6. (New) The method set forth in claim 5, wherein the ketone is at least one selected from the group consisting of an α -diketone, a β -diketone, an α -hydroxyketone and a carboxylic acid.